

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A backup circuit disposed between a digital circuit ~~(20)~~ including a storage circuit and a power supply terminal (T_{IN} , T_{GND}) for supplying power to said digital circuit, and including a backup capacitor ($C1$) for supplying a backup voltage to said digital circuit when the power is cut off, thereby holding information stored in said storage circuit,

wherein said backup circuit includes devices ~~(MOS1, MOS2)~~ which are capable of being formed by a standard CMOS process, which are disposed between said power supply terminal (T_{IN} , T_{GND}) and said backup capacitor ~~(C1)~~, and which serve as resistors when the power is normally supplied to said power supply terminal, and as diodes each operating with a forward~~backward~~ direction thereof defined as the direction from said digital circuit toward said power supply terminal when the power is cut off.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The backup circuit according to Claim 1,

wherein said devices are MOS transistors ~~(MOS1, MOS2)~~, and

gate terminals ~~(G1, G2)~~ of said MOS transistors are connected to a ground potential.

3. (Currently Amended) The backup circuit according to Claim 2,

wherein said MOS transistors ~~(MOS1, MOS2)~~ are connected in series in plural number.

4. (Currently Amended) The backup circuit according to Claim 1, further comprising:

shift means ~~(12)~~ for shifting said digital circuit to a power low-consumption state when a voltage at said power supply terminal drops to a level not higher than a predetermined voltage.

5. (Currently Amended) The backup circuit according to Claim 4,

wherein said shift means ~~(12)~~ is voltage detecting means for detecting the voltage at said power supply terminal and shifting said digital circuit to a standby state when the voltage at said power supply terminal drops to a level not higher than the predetermined voltage.

6. (Currently Amended) The backup circuit according to Claim 4,

wherein said shift means ~~(12)~~—is an oscillator driven by the voltage supplied from said power supply terminal, driving said digital circuit with a clock signal outputted from said oscillator, and stopping oscillation when the voltage supplied from said power supply terminal drops to a predetermined voltage.

7. (Currently Amended) The backup circuit according to Claim 1, further comprising:

reset means ~~(14)~~—for resetting said digital circuit when a voltage at said power supply terminal drops to a level not higher than a predetermined voltage.

8. (Currently Amended) The backup circuit according to Claim 7, wherein said reset means ~~(14)~~—resets said digital circuit with a delay of a predetermined time after the voltage at said power supply terminal has dropped to a level not higher than the predetermined voltage.